

A Newspaper Devoted to the Welfare of All Workers by Hand or Brain

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HELPING THE SOCIALISTS

THERE are something like fifteen hundred strikes rampant in the western hemisphere at this time. It is proposed by the law makers to enact legislation which will make a strike illegal. All the agencies in control of the interests imperiled by strikes, including the press of the country, are clamoring for legislation of this kind. It appears to be the sure, swift solution for exceedingly dangerous problems. Our law makers simply declare that strikes threaten the welfare of the great public at large, are a menace to public safety and security, and for the good of the state a labor leader advocating a strike will be subject to two year's imprisonment, or a fine of ten thousand dollars, or both. Advocates of this plan confidently expect that with the simple passage of this act industrial disturbance will be a thing of the past. Of course, labor is to be given proper consideration. Employers will meet from time to time and decide just what remuneration labor is to receive for its contribution to the capital wealth of the nation.

You give this plan your support because the benefit to be derived is so obvious. Permit me to warn you that the most deceptive thing in this world is an obvious fact. It is just because the solution seems so obvious that we fall into deep errors in considering the proposed legislation. I say to you with absolute certainty, and without fear of contradiction, that every socialist in the land will welcome the passage of such legislation with passionate 'huzzah.' If you will have

the patience to read on I will attempt to prove the truth of the assertion.

In the year 1665, following the great plague of London, employers awoke to discover that there was a tremendous shortage of labor. There was more work for labor than there were laborers to work. Instead of workmen beseeching for favors from employers, employers were competing for favors from the workmen. The result was that wages began to mount, until the workers came dangerously near the point of

demanding the full product of their labor.

It is quite understandable that if labor were to receive the full product capital would be destroyed, and so the capitalists of that day combined and enacted legislation to fix a maximum wage, to illegalize the strike, to restrain workers from moving from one place to another, to penalize idlers, break up all forms of organizations, and imposed the most serious penalties upon all who dared to disobey the law. It is truth to state that the desired effects were obtained. But this was in the year 1665. In the year of our lord nineteen hundred and twenty the sequences would be appallingly different from the employers' point of view.

To come to an understanding it is necessary for us to realize some of the factors intimately associated with the present day problems. We are all familiar with the growth and development of the trades union, but you appear quite unfamiliar with the fact that with the growth of trades unionism, an economic movement, there has grown up another movement, political in its nature, the socialist movement. The labor movement concerns itself with wages, hours, and working conditions, but the socialist movement is a bird of another color. It is a political movement. The trades union believes in solving its principal problems by means of collective bargaining. Nearly everything that is wanted can be acquired by adequate wage adjustment, agreement as to the number of hours worked, and the conditions under which the work is to be done. The socialist, however, is not so easily satisfied. The tremendous political impetus given to this school of political thought by the war, and by recent labor upheavals, is not even faintly comprehended by the employers, as is proven by the fact that they are asking for anti-strike legislation. For those who are not familiar with socialism, and there are a legion, permit me to tell you what it is, to show you its relation to the labor movement, and then judge your own folly in endorsing the proposed legislation.

First; the socialist says that his is a materialistic conception of history. Men are but the caprice, the puppets, the playthings of the great forces of life. All social codes merely reflect certain existing economic conditions.

Secondly; "The history of all society thus far is the history of class struggle." He declares

AN AMERICAN VIEW



SUICIDE

—Kirby in the New York World.

(Continued on page 9)

Our OTTAWA LETTER

Last Monday was a mournful evening in certain circles in Ottawa. Room 16 is the rendez-vous of the rank and file of the Unionist party. It is mainly used by the Tory members of the Coalition as their Liberal brethren feel some diffidence in frequenting it.

There on the fateful evening the true in heart were gathered together to hear the customary good news of a victory in rockribbed Ontario. A special wire service had been arranged and paid for and as befitted a joyous ceremonial, a distinguished political potentate in the shape of Mr. Arthur Meighen had been induced to come and act as master of ceremonies. He read out the earlier telegrams in his cold Parliamentary tones; the tidings were not good but after all every election brings disaster, and Toronto's lapse into semi-Liberalism was only an aberration. But the news did not improve and some Labor victories were ominous; Mr. Meighen's voice had grown less confident. Then the results from rural ridings began to flow in and the full tragedy slowly revealed itself to the astounded audience.

The Hon. Arthur's voice by this time bore close resemblance to the sad intonations of a clergyman preaching a funeral sermon over a dear departed friend and the telegrams became quite too painful to read loud. A tally of the results was kept on the wall but the U.F.O. column grew longer and the Tory remained stationary and sometimes actually receded, it became an object of positive horror and aversion and was at last ruthlessly wiped out by a disgusted Tory M.P.

The gathering then broke up in a serious state of dejection, not to sleep but to dream of future election atrocities to come, when their own day of accounting befell.

The Liberals, of course, rejoiced in the discomfiture of their hereditary foes, but their mood was chastened. It was a comfort to elect Dewar and secure 5 seats in Toronto but the urban gains were balanced by the rural losses and the net party strength was no greater. In a federal election Liberalism could hope for few seats in Ontario towns, and here they saw their candidates being wiped out in the country. It was an ill omen that Liberalism could merely hold its own when the democratic tide was racing wildly against the Tories. Mr. Rowell pretended to be delighted with the result of the referendum, but some wit spread a malevolent story that he had had a row with the House of Commons barber because the latter demanded two dollars as a special fee for shaving him—his face was so long.

Since the event all else has been dwarfed in importance. No one has

much interest to spare for the Grand Trunk and the strange upheaval and its causes have been debated and discussed from every angle, wherever politicians and press men met to match minds. All week long the Ontario Tory members have come trooping back from the stricken field, each with a different and more mournful tale of woe.

One and all agree that hopeless political perversity and heart-breaking duplicity are revealed in the result. Carleton, Dufferin and three of the Simcoes lost to Toryism—shall we next hear that Sir Sam Hughes has become a Catholic or the United States a monarchy?

Each had his own explanation. One man asserted that Union Government was the prime cause of all these evils and the campaign in his district has turned solely on Federal issues. Others averred that the prohibition Liberals had betrayed the doughty champion who favored their fad and that the "wet" Tories had voted against their erstwhile leader in disgust. There is also a theory that the women forced the men to vote for prohibition and the men in their turn compelled their spouses to vote against the men who introduced it.

Many Tories, say the people, were sick of too much "uplift" on the part of Sir W. Hearst and his collaborator, Mr. Rowell, and wanted less autocracy and more common sense in their government. Bolshevism gets no little share of blame for the Labor vote, but it is hard to fasten that label upon the electors of the Greys and Simcoes.

But "facts are chieftains that win a ding" and there the cold figures stare them in the face. At last the two historic parties of Canada find their monopoly of alternate political supremacy vigorously contested by a new organization, which in a few years, has developed capable leadership and attracted amazing electoral support for an advanced radical programme. And that those things should happen in good old Tory Ontario—there are occasions too sad for tears. If these crimes can be committed in Ontario, what manner of electoral violence may not be expected from the rude and desperate inhabitants of Saskatchewan and Alberta where the madness is of longer standing.

Lord Salisbury, the great Conservative premier of Britain, once in passing a progressive measure said in jest: "We are all Socialists now." At Ottawa members are not all Socialists, but they are all farmers now. It is amazing what a deep interest has been developed in agricultural problems and rural regeneration. Equally amazing the number of M.P.'s who now assert that while they may practise law or draw teeth or sell boots for a living, they have no real interest in

these pursuits but have a passionate devotion to farming and hope henceforth to give all their time to it. Men who have a country cottage or a block of suburban lots talk about them as their farm. Agriculture now bids fair to come into its own as an occupation for weary politicians.

But the problem still abides—what does the future hold for us and our parties?

Obviously Toryism in Canada, if it cannot hold its own in Ontario, lies dead upon the plain. I.B.C. has little to offer. Liberalism, as long as Sir Robert Borden heads the Unionists, seems to have a sure stronghold for the time being in Quebec, but who knows but that the plague may cross the Ottawa and rage unchecked through the lower provinces?

To say that the party managers are distressed is to put it mildly—they are positively horrified, except the few who have a real sense of perspective and are willing to see the cause of progress gain ground under any banner. They are confronted with a condition and not a theory and the supreme problem now is how the rising tide of democracy can be stemmed in its raging course—what dams and levées can be built to save the vested interests and cherished institutions.

Yet some of the sages and schemers miss the real point of the situation. The old order of things has gone never to return. They do not see that the plain people of Canada, like the plain people of other lands are sick and weary of the old governments which were steadily controlled in the interests of a limited and privileged plutocratic class who managed the affairs of countries for their own profit, working behind the scenes through their lawyer satellites and professional politicians.

What we saw last week was a political revolution against this scheme of things whose follies and iniquities from his own point of view has at last been driven home to the average man. It is part and parcel of a

social and economic revolution which is in progress all the world over. Other revolutions have been bloody; ours in Canada will be peaceful, but it should be drastic. It has been the privilege of the U.F.O. and their Labor allies to make the first real dent in the enemies' lines; other trenches remain to be taken, but the morale of the opponents of democracy is already shaken.

Our Cabinet ministers at Ottawa sit around with the mournful mien of the victims at the French Revolution who were led from the legislative assembly to the guillotine. But it is only the political guillotine that they need fear, though it is certain to descend. Anyhow all friends of progress and democracy are agreed that it was a famous victory and has made easier the battles that are to follow.

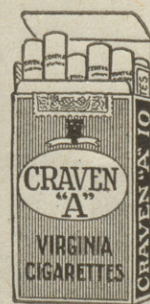
The Grand Trunk debate has again monopolised practically the whole time of the House during the past week. Mr. Turgeon, who resumed, thought that the Grand Trunk ought to have been allowed to go into the hands of a receiver like the G.T.P. and drew attention to the fact stated in the Drayton-Acworth report that the G.T. had paid out \$36,000,000 in dividends which ought to have been expended in the maintenance and equipment of the road.

As a good New Brunswicker, he was afraid lest traffic might be diverted from St. John to Portland. He thought also tariff reduction was more important than railway nationalization. Mr. Turgeon is of a retiring nature, but his contributions to any debate are always marked by good reasoning and free from cant and twaddle.

Mr. T. A. Crerar followed and intimated that he would support the Bill, but he was strongly opposed to any idea that the Grand Trunk should be relieved of its liabilities in connection with the G.T.P. He reviewed the whole railway situation in Canada and frankly declared himself in favor of Government ownership. As to the theory that the Intercolonial had been a hopeless failure, he quoted statistics of the Railway Department to show that the average freight rate on the C.P.R. was 19 p.c. higher than on the Intercolonial, and that the average passenger rate was 24 p.c. higher.

In June, 1915, there were 23,800 miles of railway in the U.S.A. which were in receivers' hands, so it was not fair to argue that public ownership always failed as compared with private. He quoted the example of the great success of the community-owned power system in Winnipeg and the Hydro in Ontario. He said:

"Private ownership is based on the principle of gain; it is an investment for profit. I do not find any fault with that principle, which is perfectly laudable. On the other hand public ownership is based on the idea of service as cost to the people, and I submit that in the case of great natural monopolies



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such as railway transportation or the development of electrical energy, where by the very nature of the thing an individual or small group of individuals cannot carry on the service for themselves, it is in the interests of the State and of its citizens that the principle of public ownership should apply."

He thought that there was no danger of public ownership introducing more political corruption than private ownership had done. As far as the arbitration proceedings were concerned he warned the Government that the public interest must be guarded and the people of Canada would demand a strict accounting. As for the future of the national railways, he wanted a general revaluation which would wipe out all the watered stock. It was unfair to ask the country to pay freight rates devised to give returns on a greatly over-capitalized valuation.

Furthermore, in his opinion, which was shared, he thought, by a large element in the community, the influence of the old Mackenzie & Mann gang was far too strong in the councils of the National Railway system and he advocated its early elimination to create confidence. He advocated that each parliament should appoint a special Railway Committee for its life, who would examine and criticise, if necessary, all the national railway reports. The Railway Commission should pass on all applications for branch railways to avoid political intrigue. The promise of the support of Mr. Crerar's group was very welcome to the anxious and harassed government front bench.

Mr. P. F. Casgrain, one of the abler of the young French-Canadians members, attacked the Bill from half a dozen aspects. He quoted at considerable length declarations by Lord Shaughnessy and Mr. Beatty against public ownership and to reinforce them marshalled a variety of authorities ranging from the "Gazette" and "Star" to Prof. Mavor and Mr. F. B. Carvell. Mr. E. B. Devlin who followed was also strong on quotation, but he had scarcely got under way when the amazing news from Ontario hopelessly distracted the attention of the House and it was agreed to adjourn. What Tory could listen patiently to a debate when his party has been beaten in Carleton County?

Mr. Devlin continued his assault upon the agreement next afternoon and accused the Government of having more regard for English investors than for Canadian taxpayers. Mr. McIsaac, of P. E. I., roused himself from his happy state of semi-somnolence and provided the printers of the paper he edits with some copy, by exposing the railway follies of the Laurier regime.

Mr. D. D. Mackenzie, who is still as essentially conservative as the Celt who preceded him, indulged the House in one of his longwinded and dreary harangues, into which

he introduced an ample volume of stale partisan politics and very little sound reasoning. He ended up by moving an amendment to the effect that the Bill be deferred to a future session of Parliament, on the ground that it proposes a large addition to the debt of the Dominion at a time when the financial position and the maintenance of the country public credit was a source of anxiety to all concerned and that the special purpose of the present session having been announced and the prorogation foreshadowed, the closing days of the session was not the time to introduce so momentous a measure. Mr. Meighen replied to him in his most sarcastic and contemptuous vein.

Later on Mr. Rowell essayed a lengthy defence of public ownership and sought to give instances of many successes to its credit. Mr. J. J. Denis gloomily estimated the liabilities which the country was now being asked to assume at \$504,000,000 and the prospect appalled him. Mr. McCrea, of Sherbrooke, who is more interested in pulpmaking than democracy though nominally a Liberal, was mercilessly critical of the project; to him it savored of socialism and anarchy. Thereafter followed a series of speeches for and against the measure.

Mr. F. S. Cahill, who has been an industrious student of the railway tangle, was brief and to the point in his criticisms. Mr. R. L.

Richardson, as usual, was emotional and reminiscent, but for once neglected to narrate the oft-told tale of his departure from the Liberal party.

Mr. Cannon's oratory was as usual excellent but it stopped at that.

The most interesting personal event of the week was the appearance of Mr. Mackenzie King, the new Liberal leader, who had received an acclamation in Prince. The Liberals gave him a great ovation and within an hour he had plunged into the fray and was attacking the measure. He made a speech which was excellent in its form and delivery and it was patently a relief to the Liberals to find themselves once more with a leader who was capable of more than partisan reminiscences and old-maidish nagging.

Mr. Mackenzie never had more than a second rate mind and a third rate understanding of political and economical problems, but he has deteriorated rather than improved this session and Mr. Meighen, on Wednesday, made hopeless mince-meat of his arguments. The minister said if he had put forward such figures as Mr. Mackenzie had done, he would have been "glad to have been charged with dishonesty."

Mr. King began by asserting that the agreement would not bring about public ownership; it was merely an option to purchase in 30 years and deferred public ownership to that time. Canada, in his



view, was simply relieving the Grand Trunk shareholders of enormous liabilities which our taxpayers must shoulder. He accused the Government of trying to rush the bill through in the closing days of the session and asserted strongly that the interests of the country demanded caution and delay.

The wearisome and omniscient Mr. G. B. Nicholson, of Algoma, was put up to answer him and immediately the press gallery was deserted utterly and the corridors filled with members. Dr Reid took up the task to refute Mr. King's arguments with much sound and fury as is his wont; placid argument is not his strong point.

Mr. Cannon and Mr. Jacobs both made very able short speeches against the measure. Mr. Jacobs made great fun with Dr. Reid's harangue and charged that Mr. Z. A. Lash and the old C.N.R. were too much mixed up with our national railway management. Mr. Euler was in favor of the principle of government ownership, but against the Bill. Two dissentients spoke from the Unionist benches, Brig-Gen. H.-H. Maclean, of St. John, who thought that port would suffer and objected to state ownership on principle and Major Andrews, of Winnipeg, who insisted that the soldiers' problems deserved prior consideration to that of the Grand Trunk. He foreshadowed to the obvious alarm of the Cabinet a contest "between the soldiers who won and the railway which lost."

When a division was taken about midnight, the amendment of Mr. Mackenzie was defeated by 91 to 61 and the second reading carried. Three Unionists voted with the Opposition. The debate was interesting and kept at a fairly high level. The Liberals had many effective criticisms of the agreement, but they had no constructive policy to substitute. Again no speaker dealt adequately with the difficult complications which may arise through Canada assuming virtual ownership of railways in the United States.

On Friday, the discussion of the Grand Trunk Bill proceeded in committee and Mr. Jacobs' Bill to amend the Election Act made further progress. The Government have mutilated it by increasing the time within which vacancies must be filled up to six months, far too long a period, but on the other, they propose to make it illegal for any one even to be nominated for more than one seat. Another week at least must elapse ere the session ends.

J. A. S.

More Deadly Than War

Statistics show that influenza is much more deadly than war. In a few months it took more victims than fell in over four years of fighting.

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So states Bernard Shaw.

Worse yet—it is responsible for the wholesale slaughter of children.

What is this hideous crime, so hideous that "all of the other crimes are virtues beside it."

It is poverty.

Allow me to state categorically two simple facts.

That portion of our community which lives in poverty is unable to procure proper food for its children.

Children who do not receive proper food either die, or live maimed in body or mind.

This is the great basic fact which we must bear in mind when studying Child Welfare problems. It is a fact which cannot be brought too definitely and clearly before the minds of all benevolently inclined persons who desire to aid children. It is a fact which has hitherto been largely ignored by social workers and philanthropists generally.

When we are truly civilized, the community will rise up and insist that some provision be made whereby, in the words of Spargo, "every child born into the world will receive sufficient food to enable him to possess enough vitality to overcome unnecessary and preventable diseases and to grow into a manhood physically capable of satisfactorily competing in industrial or intellectual pursuits..."

Is this an Utopian dream? It seems to me the most obvious and fundamental necessity. Until we can at least assure this simple human right to the children of our nation we have no right to consider ourselves civilized.

Surely this modicum of justice will soon be accorded our children. When one remembers that only a hundred years ago men decided that every child born into the world should receive a minimum of education; and when one remembers that to-day almost all children do receive this modicum—why, the matter does not seem altogether hopeless. If this can be done for the mind, surely that can be done for the body.

Bear in mind that our race as a whole could never have advanced beyond savagery without a certain provision of food and other material necessities. Without the meat and milk and grain diet assured to our earliest forefathers we should be a wild horde of unthinking savages. What is true of the whole is also true of the parts. What is true of the life of the race is also true of that part of our people which cannot assure this diet to its children.

Julia Lathrop, head of the Federal Children's Bureau, had some interesting testimony to offer on this subject, when reporting the results of a survey conducted by her staff in an American city. "The highest infant mortality rate, 271, is found... where the poorest, most lowly persons of the community live—families of men employed to do the unskilled work in the steel mills and mines". In sharp contrast with this comes the following statement: "The down-town section, where are to be found many of the best-conditioned houses, the homes of many of the well-to-do people, has the lowest infant mortality rate in the city being but 50."

"In other words", says Nearing, "among people who have sufficient incomes to give their children proper care, the death rate is less than a fifth as great as it is in the families of the unskilled workers".

Let us turn once more to Miss Lathrop:

"A grouping of babies according to the income of the father shows the greatest incidence of infant deaths where wages are lowest, and

the smallest incidence where they are highest, indicating clearly the relation between low wages and ill health and infant deaths."

There is a certain minimum of food below which health and even life are impossible to the child. They are also impossible to the adult; but we are dealing here with conditions as they affect the child. The amount of food required by a child of any age can be fixed with scientific accuracy.

How many children receive this modicum of food?

So far as I know no authoritative statistics are available regarding Canada. But in the great country which economically and geographically so nearly resembles Canada fairly accurate figures have been given. Roughly speaking it is estimated that one-fifth of that nation are living in dire poverty; in poverty greater than that of their ancestors of the Stone Age; in poverty so hideous that it slays and maims and brutalizes.

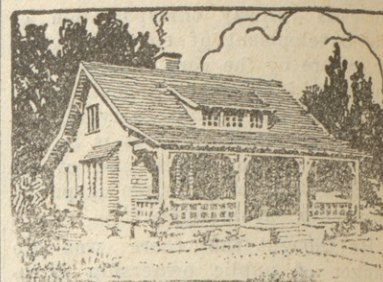
Now bear in mind this point.

In pre-historic ages each man, working for himself, was able to provide food, to provide shelter for himself. To-day, with the discovery of machinery and the advance of business efficiency, one man can provide food for hundreds. The logical inference is that we should be a hundred times better off. Yet, in spite of this, vast numbers of our fellow-beings are living in worse misery than did their ancestors, the Cliff-Dwellers.

Besides these—the submerged tenth which statistics teach us are really the submerged fifth!—great multitudes live in comparative poverty in poverty which compels them to work late and early for meagre returns. Of these, however, we need not speak. They can usually provide food for their children. Let us confine ourselves in the submerged fifth and ascertain, if we can, just what they mean to our nation.

"Years of careful study and investigation", says Spargo, "have convinced me that the evils inflicted upon children by poverty are responsible for many of the worst features of that hideous phantasmagoria of hunger, disease, vice, crime, and despair which we call the Social Problem."

If the foundations of a building are not laid with skill and care what hope is there that the build-



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ing will prove stable or satisfactory?

The Milwaukee Health Bulletin has some interesting things to tell us in this connection.

In the upper and middle classes, 76 die out of every thousand infants born. In the intermediate classes, 106 die. In the unskilled workman class, 152 die. Among general laborers we have an infant mortality of 196.

Two hundred and nineteen out of every thousand infants living in one room tenements die. In two-room tenements, only 157 die. In three-room tenements 141 die. In four rooms and over, 99 die. Two hundred and fifty-six infants die out of every 1,000 born, if the father earns only \$10 per week; and only eighty-four die when he earns \$25 per week.

If infant mortality is increased by poverty, we can remove the effect, death, by removing the cause, poverty. If we cannot, at present entirely remove poverty—in a future article I hope to show that Poverty is as preventable as small pox—we can, at least, remove some of the death-dealing factors that accompany it.


A certain amount of poverty might be eliminated, for instance, if employers could be brought to realize that, when any of their employees are compelled to seek or to accept charity, it is not the employees who are the charity cases, but the employers. Any industry that cannot afford to pay its employees a living wage—that is, a wage which allows of proper living, housing, feeding, etc.—should not be allowed to exist. It is a

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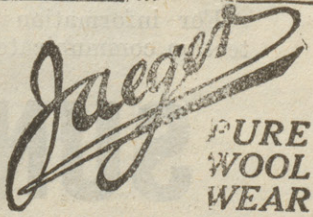

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liability and not an asset to the community.

Who, pray, pays for the jails, the hospitals, the workhouses, the industrial schools, the reformatories, the asylums, and the public courts? The public! We! We pay the piper and we have a right to call the tune. It is the first duty of every business man as well as of every public-minded citizen to see that every child born into this world, simply because it is a child, receives the best medical attention, the best available supply of milk, the best good plain food later on, and the best education possible. It is the men and women who were starved and neglected in childhood who fill our courts, our penitentiaries, our hospitals. And we pay for these. Never forget that!

Hitherto we have been studying the great and pressing problems of our times from the wrong end—the adult end. At last, we are beginning to see that progress begins, and to a great extent ends, with the child. Nearly all the problems of physical, mental and moral degeneracy begin with the child.

Let us see, roughly, what has been done elsewhere.

In Australia, all births are reported at once to the Health Department by telephone; and each case is then visited by a special maternity nurse. The State Children's Department appoint women inspectors to visit the children of the poor. These nurse inspectors have to report, not only upon the condition of the homes, but of the children. The mothers are furnished with printed instructions as to the kind of food to be given, the proper quantities, methods of preparation, and times of feeding. If the child does not thrive satisfactorily, the nurse inspector calls in one of the physicians of the department. If milk cannot be properly assimilated, something else is tried. In short, all that skill and care can do to protect the lives of the infants is done; with the result that the infant mortality rate has been cut in half—reduced from 15 to 8 per cent.

Then there is urgent need of State or Federal supervision of the manufacture and sale of patent infant foods. Most of the patent foods are bad because of the starch which they contain while some of the cheaper kinds are little better than poison. Our Montreal authority, Dr. Styles, has published the results of a partial survey made by him this summer; we find from this that there is serious need both of a campaign of education among the people and also of serious State intervention.

Another point—and an important one!

It is both cruel and foolish to attempt to teach a hungry child. Yet we impose this cruel task on our teachers. Danton said with truth that "After bread, education is the first need of a nation". Everyone realizes now that education is a social necessity; but most of us

lose sight of the first part of Danton's saying. Education comes after bread—not before!

Again let us see what is being done elsewhere. We seldom think of Italy as a leader in the vanguard of progress; yet one municipality of Italy, many years ago, put the more prominent nations of the world to shame. The city of Vercelli, in Italy, at the beginning of this century, made feeding of her school children as compulsory as education. In Vercelli, every child, rich or poor, is compelled to attend the school dinners provided by the municipality, just as it is compelled to attend the school lessons. In addition to food, medical care and inspection are offered to every school child as a right. Real medical care and inspection!

Does it not seem absurd that a little city like this should find such a simple, sensible, humane, solution of a pressing problem while a great, modern, rich city like Montreal should lag behind?

Is it not self-evident that no child born into this world should suffer from hunger? Free, wholesome, and nutritious meals should be the right of every school-child, of every child during the period of helplessness. Of course, the usual cry of "pauperization" will be raised. I do not feel pauperized when I enter a free library and choose a book for my pleasure or instruction! Why then should a child be pauperized because it receives food from the State, when it requires that food? "There is no pain like the pain of a new idea", says Bagshot. Let us endure that pain for, as Spargo dryly remarks: "If the alternative to pauperization is slow starvation and suffering, I unhesitatingly prefer pauperization."

Then with regard to medical inspection! We will leave Italy and turn to Brussels; with a passing word of regret that old and "outworn" civilizations should, in many respects, prove so much more enlightened and humane than new and professedly "up-to-date" ones. Every child in the public elementary schools is medically examined once every ten days. "If it looks weak or puny, it is given cod-liver oil or some suitable tonic. Its eyes, teeth, ears and general physical condition are thoroughly examined into. It always gets a square meal at mid-day; and great care is taken to see that no child goes ill shod, ill clad, or ill fed."

We shall now glance at Norway. In connection with the schools there are sanatoria and convalescent homes. Sickly school children are put upon a special diet and given individual and expert medical care. They too have the "free-lunch" system in their schools.

And so to Switzerland. Here perhaps we touch high water mark. Here school-children coming from poor families are not only fed but are frequently clothed or shod at the public expense. Every child is medically examined before being

admitted into the schools, and periodically afterwards. Sick children are sent to the convalescent homes "Holiday Colonies" are provided, to which hundreds of children are sent each year for a period of twenty-five days each.

And so we return to Montreal; to the metropolis of the Dominion of Canada; to the largest and in many respects the most important of the British Dominions.

Perhaps we need not dwell over-much on what needs must be a depressing subject. Suffice it to say, very mildly and gently, that we do not feed hungry children before trying to educate them; that we do not supply them with tonics or oils, however badly they may need such remedies; that we do not provide them with "Holiday Colonies" or convalescent homes; and that even our medical inspection apparently leaves—shall we say something to be desired?

Yet surely we have no cause for despair. What Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, Australia, New

Zealand, can do and are doing for their babies it is not too much to hope that Canada will at some not far distant date do for hers. I can suggest no reason for our present conditions save sloth and stupidity; and I refuse to believe that these are permanent or congenital characteristics of Canadians. Without any very fundamental change, without any revolutionary alterations, Canada in general, and Montreal in particular, could cut the child mortality rate in half. It may be instructive to note in this connection the often-quoted fact that while the death-rate among Montreal babies un-cared-for by any Health Centre is about twenty-two per cent, the death-rate among babies cared for by the Health Centres averages four per cent; and the death-rate at one of the model Health Centres and Milk Stations averaged, during 1918, half of one per cent!

"Poverty is the worst of crimes" but we need not wait for the abolition of poverty before remedying conditions—fortunately.

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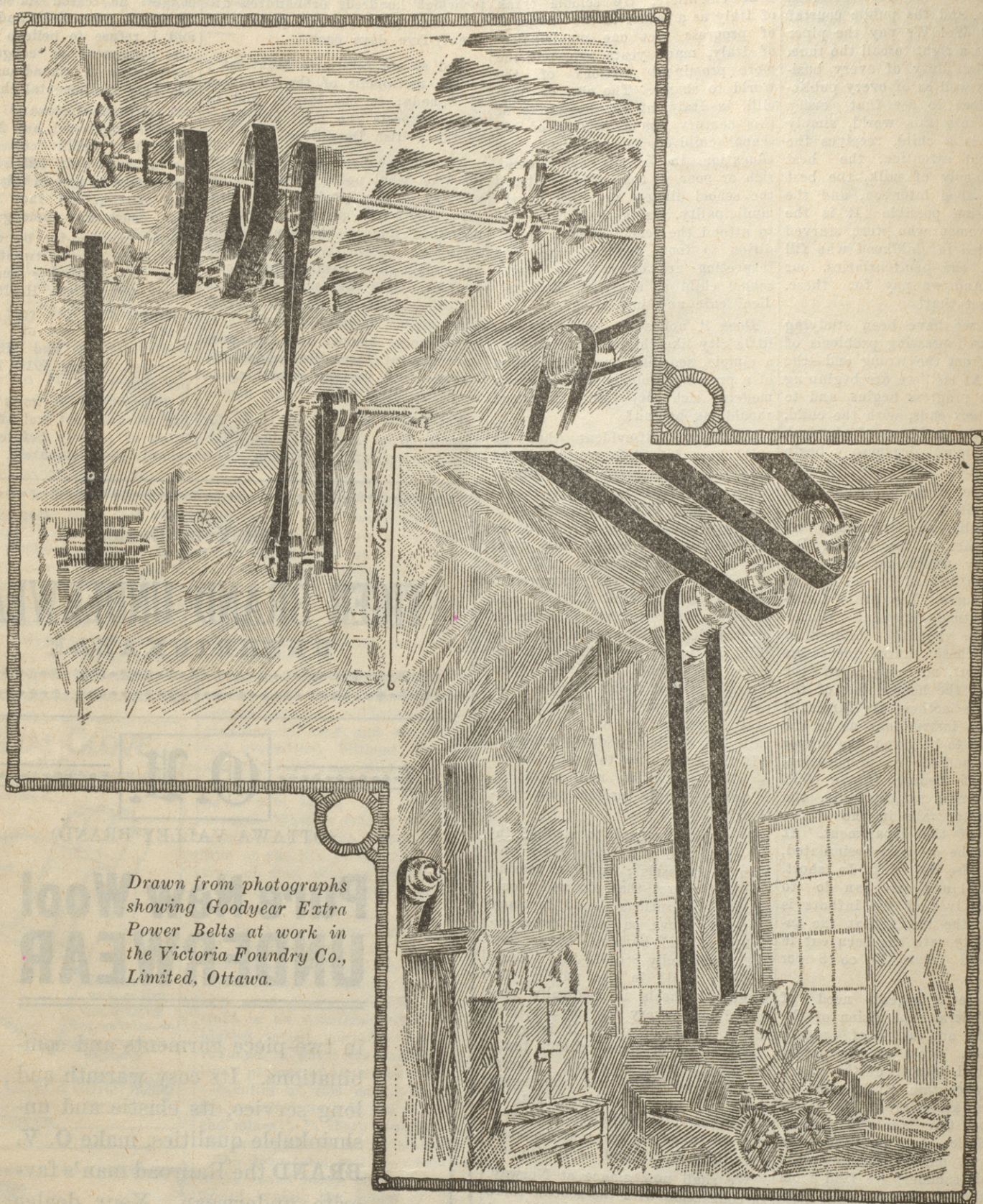
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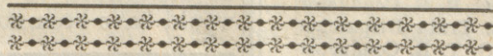
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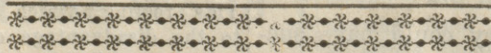
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WEEKLY

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60. DANDURAND BUILDING, MONTREAL

GEO. PIERCE, Editor. KENNEDY CRONE, Associate Editor.

Mob Strength and Rudeness

THE strength, the rudeness and the stupidity of a mob were alike well demonstrated at the military review over which the Prince of Wales presided in Lafontaine Park, Montreal, this week. With every sympathy for the anxiety of citizens to get a good look at the Prince, one could not help censuring the mob of several thousand persons who broke the police lines in the park and, sweeping between the rows of soldiers on review, came near to destroying the whole ceremony and causing numerous casualties.

When the crowd first broke through the policemen gave repeated warnings and tried to stem the rush without violence, but no one paid any heed, not even women with children in their arms or by their side. Every opening between policemen was immediately seized upon and frequently the officers were literally swamped. That they kept their tempers despite the insults thrown and the buffeting given was a credit to the force.

There was ample room behind the crowd to allow persons to get out of the crush if they had so desired, and ample room for sightseeing for everybody, if the mob which broke the lines had not tried to "hog" the whole show.

The police were powerless. Possibly they could have succeeded with the use of the baton, but that was forbidden and rightly so. Then along came a detachment of mounted soldiers to attempt to stem the rush. The soldiers were just as helpless as the policemen on foot, for the reason that they had restive horses and were obviously unused to the sort of work in hand, which is a trained business, however much we may decry the police. Next came a detachment of mounted policemen who had horses that were well under control and who knew something of the tactics necessary to control an obstreperous crowd. The advance of the

crowd was halted immediately by the mounted policemen and a slow backward movement was started.

But the real victory lay with about a score of police motorcyclists who suddenly appeared from nowhere and, spreading out in a fanlike movement, enveloped the mob and then charged it, threateningly but cautiously enough to avoid accident. In a few minutes the field was cleared, a distinct tribute to the police generally and to the motorcyclists particularly.

What is needed in Montreal today is not so much a disciplined police force as a disciplined crowd. If the crowd had been half as disciplined as the police during the event spoken of there would have been no trouble.

THE Prince of Wales is now chief of at least two of the barbaric tribes of Canada, both conspicuous by their feathers, festoonery and "fixing up", one on a western reservation and the other at a ball in the Ritz Carlton.

A LOCAL paper says that the large number of automobiles on the streets is a visible sign of the prosperity of the city. To be more correct, it is a visible sign of the prosperity of about 12,000 persons out of a population of about 700,000 persons.

"AN UNWISE LEADER"

(No comment is necessary.)

(Montreal Gazette)

The railway workers' brotherhoods, which, following the lines laid down by the locomotive engineers, were long counted among the most prudent of labor organizations, have evidently been developing a new spirit. Their chiefs, in some cases at least, talk as if they had the power to enforce whatever terms they pleased, and that all the rest of the country had to do was to acquiesce. Mr. Timothy Shea, chief of the firemen's brotherhood, illustrated this spirit in what he said before the U. S. Railroad Administration's board on working conditions last week. The locomotive firemen are demanding an increase in wages, and Mr. Shea told the board that if he could not get it out of the conference it would be necessary to use other means, and he was going to get it. U. S. legislators and administrators have heard this sort of talk before, and have in some notable cases given heed to it. There are some signs, however, that it may not be as effective in the future as it has been in the past. The great mass of the people are not "organized", have learned that what increases the cost of what they use has to be paid for out of their earnings, and take a business rather than a sympathetic view of the recurring demands made in the name of labor. This feeling, which has operated to the disadvantage of the steel industry strikers and is already being shown in connection with the threatened strike of the soft coal miners, will be further heightened by what Mr. Shea is reported to have said to the effect that the Brotherhood of the Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, of which he is acting president, would not observe pending anti-strike legislation if enacted into law. The legislation in question is reactionary

in that, seeking a remedy for great strike evils that disturb trade over wide areas and cause losses of millions of dollars to persons not parties to the disputes, the authors propose to take from railroad employees the right of quitting work in a body to enforce compliance with their demands. This right, or privilege, has been a great force at the command of the labor unions, and while many strikes have been lost, much has been gained by others. With the development of modern industry, and especially of transportation, it has come that the great public interest in the uninterrupted continuance of business exceeds that of either the employer or the worker or both combined; and this interest has led legislators in more countries than the United States to take action to curtail or prevent strikes. The proposed U. S. law is the most extreme of its kind. It is designed to meet an extreme situation, such as has been more than once suggested of late by talk of tying up the railway traffic of the country—to secure compliance with the demands of the workers. With the proposal to make such a thing a legal impossibility there is accompanying legislation or action to secure a fair consideration of the workers' demands. The situation to be created by the proposed law will not be so one-sided as on the face of it might appear. It is a reasonable ground of objection that railway employees should not alone be subject to such restriction; but if coal strikes and steel strikes and shipping strikes are repeated often, there will be an inclination to extend the principle to all departments of labor. And if such a law as is now in contemplation is passed, it will be possible to enforce it. Under a democracy the whole people rule, and if a section thinks it is stronger than the whole and goes too far, it will discover its error. Mr. Shea is one of the leaders whose talks hurts the labor cause.

HELPING THE SOCIALISTS

(Continued from page 1).

that profits are unpaid wages. He will tell you that these profits are enforced because the capitalist is the legal owner of the tools of production, and he is the legal owner because he controls the political, or law-making, machinery of society. The socialist therefore is intent upon capturing the political machinery so as to acquire the capitalist's ownership of the means of production, and here you have the class struggle.

Now let us harp back to the labor movement. At first the socialist openly antagonized and attacked the labor leader, and the rank and file in the labor movement, but of recent years there has been a marked change of policy. They are constantly "Boring from within," they join the labor organizations and on every occasion twist economic arguments into political arguments. They no longer attempt to ridicule or vilify labor leaders. Rather the policy is one of conciliation and argument. Whenever an economic struggle ends in failure for the union glib socialists offer the panacea of political action. From east to west, from north to south, every labor organization has its quota of socialists patiently, tirelessly, propagating the capture of the political machinery as a means for the acquisition of the industrial machinery. Large sections and districts are already in control and under leadership of the socialist wing.

Now suppose that legislation is enacted making the strike illegal, such legislation must be effected by the law making machinery of the land, and it is this machinery about which the socialist has so constantly woven his sermons. It is the heavy

hand of this political machinery that will fall upon the worker and bring home the socialist argument with irresistible force. Destroy the strike weapon in the labor movement and the economic movement is dead; and where will labor go, and what will labor do? What outlet will it seek to escape an industrial serfdom? I can answer that question for you. It will escape through the only avenue left open. It will rush through the only door ajar. It will thunder out and into the arms of the waiting socialist, who doesn't concern himself in the least with wages, or hours, or working conditions, but who is intent upon capturing the political machinery of the world. to make the laws under which he will live. If you pass this law, my good friends, you will make more socialists in one night than all the propagandists, the writers, the lecturers, the soap-box orators have ever made, more socialists than a legion of Karl Marxes could make. Employers, this is your position. Destroy the strike weapon, break the labor movement, and you make the socialist movement. What is your choice?

G. P.

HE STOOPS TO CONQUER

"Geo, but it's late! Will your wife get up and let you in when you get home?"

"I'll make her. I'll scratch on the door and whine and she'll think her dog's been locked out." — "St. Louis Republic."

DANGEROUS GERMS.

"You claim there are microbes in kisses", she asked the young doctor.

"There are," he said. "What disease do they bring?" she asked.

"Palpitation of the heart." — "Ladies' Home Journal."

A LITTLE HUMOR

OFF AND ON

Our unfortunate experience is that a day off is generally followed by an off day. — "Boston Transcript".

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

"What is missing in Ireland?" asks a contemporary. Speaking generally, the accused. — "London Punch".

LEGAL ADVICE

Lawyer (to fair client, a defendant)—"When a young juror looks at you, weep; when an old one looks at you, flirt." — "St. Louis Republic".

INFORMATION WANTED

"Yes, they sometimes launder the soiled money at the treasury." "Can you tell me where they hang it out?" — "Kansas City Journal".

VERY BLANK

"Is that poetry what you call blank verse?"

"I think so", answered Miss Cayenne. Anyway it reads as if the mind of the man who wrote it was a blank." — "Washington Star".

A GENTLE HINT

The Robber's Grave, a well-known object of interest to visitors near Aberystwith, is to be sold. It looks like a unique chance for one of our profiteers. — "London Punch".

A DOG'S LIFE

Rivers had come home and was stumbling over things in the dark hallway.

"What are you growling about, dear?" called Mrs. Rivers from the floor above.

"I am growling", he answered in his deepest bass voice, "to drown the barking of my shings". — "Seattle Times".

HELP FOR THE ARMENIANS

"Britain", says a report, "has asked the United States to send an army of two hundred thousand men to Armenia to protect the Christian inhabitants." While unable to comply with the request President Wilson, we learn, has intimated that any Armenians who succeed in escaping will receive a sympathetic hearing from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. — "London Punch".

HOW HE GOT 'EM

"How did you get so many wounds?" I asked the corporal in the bathhouse, seeing his body covered with scars. "Accidental discharge of duties?"

"Naw, you see it was this way: I was standing on the edge of our

trench leanin' up against our barrage, when they lifted the barrage and I fell into the trench." — "Everybody's".

ALL ACCOUNTED FOR

One morning, a woman walked into a village grocery store with a majestic stride. It was easy to see by the sternness of her expression that she was somewhat disturbed.

"This", she sarcastically explained, throwing a package on the counter, "is the washing itself. It's the soap that makes washing a pleasure. It's the soap—"

"That isn't soap, madam", interrupted the grocery man, examining the package. "Your little girl was in here yesterday for a half pound of cheese and a half pound of soap. This is the cheese."

"U-m, that accounts for it, said the woman, as the light of understanding began to glow. "I wondered all night what made the Welsh rarebit we had for supper taste to queer."

— "San Francisco Argonaut."

FOILED

"Is your wife's mother enjoying her trip to the mountains?" "I'm afraid not. She's found something at last that she can't walk over."

— "Boston Transcript."

UNNECESSARY

Mr. Batz.—"You ought to brace up and show your wife who is running things at your house."

Mr. Meek (sadly).—"It isn't necessary. She knows." — "Life".

LUCKY BOY

"You seem fond of the druggist's little boy."

"Yes, he kin git all the pills he wants for our air guns." — "Kansas City Journal".

A LEGAL TURN

The following is told of a late railway magnate and a prominent Philadelphia lawyer. Said the magnate to the lawyer:

"I want you to show that this law is unconstitutional. Do you think you can manage it?"

"Easily", answered the lawyer. "Well, go ahead and get familiar with the case."

"I'm already at home in it. I know my ground perfectly. It's the same law you had me prove was unconstitutional two years ago." — "Lancaster News Journal."

THE HIGHER COMPENSATION

There is a shortage of 38,000 school teachers in the United States. That, of course, is the inevitable result of so many good teachers resigning to become janitors. — "Border Cities Star."



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OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Glasgow, October 16.

To make good the losses sustained by the Glasgow Police Force during the war, and to complete the establishment in other respects, a considerable number of additional men are required. Although recruits are being enrolled daily, the response has not been so satisfactory as was anticipated, and at least 150 more men are required to bring the force up to normal and pre-war strength. The reasons assigned for the shortage of recruits, who must be over twenty but not more than twenty-five years of age, and whose height must not be less than 5 ft. 9½ in., are the higher wages and improved conditions now being enjoyed by farm hands, and the lack of housing accommodation in the city for married men. If the lot of the policeman was not formerly a happy one, surely such cannot truthfully be said of it now. The Government Committee on Police Service recently recommended a commencing weekly wage of £3 10/, with an allowance for rent, rising with approved service to £4 15/, with the same extras. This scale of pay was approved by the Corporation a short time ago, and sanctioned by the Secretary for Scotland. Every recruit is under the necessity of attending the school of instruction, in which he is taught to write dictation and lectured with regard to his other constabulary duties. Then he is taught by means of jiu-jitsu how to deal with a dangerous or obstreperous prisoner, and the "curriculum" also includes a course in swimming. The Corporation has further evinced its interest in the welfare of the young "bobby" by taking over a building in Pollokshaws Roads, overlooking the yacht pond, for the accommodation of a number of recruits. When the necessary alterations have been effected, it will provide a comfortable home and a suitable meeting place. An Act passed in 1914 provides among other things for an eight-hours shift and one day's rest in seven. At present, owing to the comparative paucity in numbers, only one day's rest in fourteen can be given. To comply with this Act, the Chief Constable has been laid under the necessity of asking for 250 additional men. When he obtains these he will have under his command 2,250 men truly a formidable civilian army, from the point of view both of the transgressor and the ratepayer.

School Teachers' Salaries.

Teachers in various parts of the country have declared war against present conditions, and are asking their Union to enable them to strike. That policy, however, has, for the moment, been suspended, pending the sittings of the Standing Joint Committee, composed of twenty-two

representatives of various local educational authorities and an equal number of representatives of the National Union of Teachers. In an interview, Sir James Yoxall, secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said it was unreasonable to expect that teachers in the public elementary schools of the country, after seven years' training for their profession, should be content to be paid less than policemen.

The Studies Sub-Committee of the Edinburgh Provincial Committee for the Training of Teachers have had before them the minute of Privy Council on minimum national scales of salaries for teachers in Scotland. The committee agreed to recommend that the salaries of the full-time members of the Training College staff be readjusted in the light of the recently issued minimum national salary scales; that the readjusted salaries take effect as from May 16, 1919, being the date prescribed in the cases of teachers engaged in schools; and that a special sub-committee be appointed to draw up salaries for the members of the Training College staff.

Oilworks Restarting.

Everything points to several of the Scottish oilworks being restart-

ed at a much earlier date than had been expected. When the retorts at the various works were allowed to cool down, it was feared that it might be well into November before work could be resumed. Last week, the work of heating the retorts was started at Deans, and it is expected a start with similar operations will take place at the end of this week at Seafield. At Addiewell oilworks the candle factory has restarted, and a considerable number of the oilworkers have got employment effecting repairs at the various centres. Many of the shale miners have temporarily got work in the coalfield. At the district Labor Exchanges, over 1,000 applications were received for unemployment benefit, but the question of whether the workmen come within the scope of this benefit is not yet settled at headquarters.

Shipyard Trade Unions.

As the votes of the Boilermakers' Society, the Shipwrights' Society, and the Blacksmiths' Society on the question of amalgamation now comply with the requirements of the Trades Union Act, the machinery set up in the draft agreement for uniting these three unions will be proceeded with. The amalgamation of these three societies means the linking up into one body of the shipyard trades, whose collective membership is 166,000, and whose funds stand at about the sum of £1,500,000.

By Appointment
FURRIERS



To H. M. King
George V.

It is well to keep in mind that a sharp advance in Fur prices is anticipated in the early Autumn.

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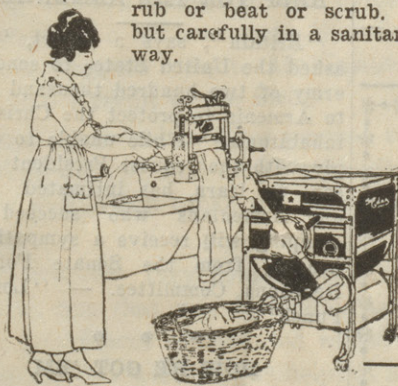
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WINNIPEG

Very special interest is being taken in the message issued by the Press Department of "The Labor News Service", which states that out of the national railway strike a permanent Council of Labor, with entirely new functions, is likely to emerge. The Conciliation Committee appointed by the Trade Union Conference to act as mediators in the railway dispute decided at their last meeting, after the settlement was reached, that steps should be taken to call a special Trade Union Congress at an early date to discuss the whole wages question with special reference to the retention of war wages and their consolidation with pre-war basic rates. The Conciliation Committee met the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress last week, to discuss this proposal, and a further suggestion that a Trade Union Council should be brought into being to regulate all wage applications. In view of interdependence of trades and the necessity of some common plan being formulated, it is felt that such a council is needed. There is an impression in Labor circles that the railwaymen jeopardised their chances of success in declaring a strike before consulting other unions, especially those which were likely to be immediately involved in a railway stoppage, and it has been pointed out that the precipitancy of the strike made it very difficult for

the other unions to get their executives together, scattered as most of their members were all over the country. What is proposed is the formation of a sort of "Labor Cabinet", which will be as fully representative as possible, to co-ordinate wage policy and to decide what steps the unions can take together in carrying it out. One suggestion is that such a Council might be formed by bringing together the trade union representatives of the Joint Industrial Council, with representatives of the Triple Alliance, the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, and the Labor Party Executive. The Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress is understood to have accepted the proposal to summon a special Trades Union Congress, and appointed a small sub-committee to assist in formulating proposals for discussion and to gather all available information from the unions regarding wages, war bonuses, etc.

Farm Servants Union.

At a joint meeting of representatives of the National Farmers' Union of Scotland and the Scottish Farm Servants' Union, representing the Glasgow hiring area, the ques-

tion of the wages, hours, and conditions of employment to rule for the ensuing six months was under consideration. Demands were put forward by the representatives of the Farm Servants' Union, which the farmer delegates present decided to lay before their respective branches for consideration. A further meeting was also arranged.

Border Textile Workers.

A disruption of Border woollen workers from the membership of the Workers' Union has taken place, and a new organization known as the Scottish Industrial Woollen Workers' Union has been formed, with Mr. Tom Hamilton, formerly organizer for the Workers' Union in the Border district, as chief official. The disruption has not been quietly accepted by the officials of the Workers' Union, who held a meeting at Galashiels for the purpose of laying before the members a statement of their position. Councillor George Kerr, Glasgow, divisional organizer of the Workers' Union presided, and Bailie Robert Climie, Kilmarnock, organizer south-western district, and Miss Eleanor Stewart, women's organizer, were the speakers on behalf of the Union. The danger of forming small sectional unions was pointed out, and Councillor Kerr, in doing so, strongly urged the members to reconsider their position.

Electrical Workers' Wages.

At a meeting of the Electricity Committee, of Dundee Town Council, an application was made by the local branch of the Electrical Trades' Union for an advance of 20 per cent. on the wages of certain classes of workers. It was reported that the average increase to the men in question on pre-war rates had been about 33/- per week. Mr. H. Richardson, the engineer, said that he had written to the union for certain information, and, in his opinion, this was a matter which should be dealt with on a national basis.

Labor and the Elections.

At a largely attended conference in Glasgow, convened by the Trades

and Labor Council, preparations were made for an organized Labor campaign in connection with the forthcoming municipal elections and the possibility of an early Parliamentary election. A municipal programme was discussed, the subjects including better housing, the municipalization of coal, milk, and bread supplies, the need for the municipalities coming with the unemployment problem, and special consideration of finance and rating. It was decided that local Labor authorities should be financed in contesting wards for which Labor candidates had been selected, and that a start should be made with the organization of the movement to meet certain election circumstances.

Lace Workers' Wages.

The action of the Executive of the Textile Workers' Union in issuing strike notices in the lace factories throughout Scotland and England was approved at a mass meeting of operatives in the Irvine Valley, held at Newmilns. It was stated that at a conference between the Executive and the Lace Manufacturers' Association, held at Carlisle, the employers had offered an increase of an additional 25 per cent. on the pre-war wages, against 40 per cent. asked by the men. The present scale of wages is 60 per cent above the pre-war standard. The Union Executive refused this offer, and should their demands not be met work at all the mills in Scotland and England will cease. Some 3,000 workers are affected in the Scottish lacemaking towns of Galston, Newmilns, Darvel and Stewarton, and also in Glasgow.

James Gibson.



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Its Only Aim Is The Welfare of The Masses.

The people of a nation cannot advance beyond the men who make its laws, and the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada exists to see to it that the workers by hand and brain are directly represented in the law-making bodies of the Dominion; to find, train and elect the right men of our own class in order to secure the kind of legislation that will protect and advance the interests of the workers.

It will wage warfare on plutocracy, despotism, economic privileges, and upon all the evil forces which burden the people and rob them of that happiness of living which is their fundamental right.

It is a non-partisan educational and political association, and because of the manner in which it is organized can never become the instrument or plaything of a small group of any class, particularly of wealthy men. The aim is the attainment of true democracy.

WE PLEDGE OURSELVES:—

To support all municipal, provincial and federal educational plans where the evident purpose is to raise the standard of education in enlightened and progressive ways; to present truthfully and fearlessly through the medium of Fifth Sunday Meetings and our own press, the "Canadian Railroader", the latest and most important political, social and industrial developments;

To advocate the abolition of property qualifications for the franchise or for election to public office; the adoption of the Initiative, Referendum and Recall, and of proportional representation in all forms of public government; universal suffrage for both sexes, on the basis of one person, one vote; the transfer of taxes from improvements, and all products of labor, to land values, incomes and inheritances;

To advocate prison reform, including introduction of the honor and segregation systems, and abolition of contract labor; the enactment and rigid enforcement of child labor laws; pensions for mothers with dependent children; regulation of immigration to prevent lowering of industrial, political or social standards; development of the postal savings and parcel post systems; financial and other assistance to farmers through co-operative banks and by other means; government development of co-operative producing and trading associations for the benefit of the consumer;

To advocate extension of workmen's housing schemes and the labor bureau system; provision of technical education for every willing worker, according to his capacities; more effective inspection of buildings, factories, workshops and mines; minimum wages; a rest period of not less than a day and a half per week for every worker; government insurance of workers against sickness, injury and death; maternity benefits and old-age pensions; better Workmen's Compensation Acts; representation of the workers on all public boards and on boards for the supervision of private enterprises; union labor conditions in all government work; adequate pensions and opportunities for soldiers and their dependents;

To advocate freedom of speech and of the press, and a law compelling all newspapers and periodicals to publish in all issues a complete list of shareholders and bondholders.

"The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada" is financed entirely by its members who contribute \$2 a year in membership fees. If a local has been established in your city \$1 remains in the local treasury and the other dollar is sent by the local organization to our Dominion Headquarters, 60 Dandurand Building, Montreal, Que. In case no local has been established in your community, send the membership fee of \$2 directly to Dominion Headquarters.

The funds accumulating in the Dominion Headquarters are used for political and educational propaganda; the development of the organization; the preparation of pamphlets and leaflets and the financing of the various political campaigns where favorable opportunities develop, to elect our candidates. The treasurer is under bond and the books are audited by a firm of accountants.

An application blank will be found below. Merely fill out the application blank, buy a postal order for \$2 and send it to Dominion Headquarters. Your membership card will be forwarded by return mail. Join this great organization in the interests of education and clean politics. Today is the day and this is the hour. Become a member now.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Secretary,

The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada,
General Headquarters, 60 Dandurand Building,
MONTREAL, QUE.

I hereby make application for membership in "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada." I subscribe and agree to pay, while a member, the yearly fee of \$2.00 in advance.

Name

Amount paid \$..... Address

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Make all cheques and money orders payable to "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada."

Official membership card will be mailed from headquarters, with copy of platform, constitution and general rules.

A TASK FOR CANADIANS

ONE of the most pressing problems which confronts us as a people to-day is the fitting of the late arrivals into our midst to the terms and conditions of Canadian life. The various plans for Canadianisation usually fall into three categories. Some are patent devices to allure the foreigner to one or other political organization. Others are schemes, equally patent, to facilitate the exploitation of foreign labor. A third class, which are almost invariably disinterested, serious and well intended, aim at indoctrinating the foreigner with the superiority of our language, habits, culture and institutions over his own, in short at making him, for weal or for woe, as much like ourselves as possible.

The first two types are essentially dishonest, but the third is worthy of closer examination. The teaching of the English language to the late-comers is desirable and in a measure fundamental as it is important that people of various races living side by side should have a common medium of communication as a first step towards mutual understanding. But teaching English is only a matter of time and the proper instrument.

We want the foreigner to learn English and most foreigners unless over fifty desire to learn it. He must have it to win success in business and for use in his dealings with the native born as well as other foreign people. Besides English is one of the great world languages of culture and opens up treasures of a glorious literature. It needs no skillful propaganda to induce the foreign population to accept the chance of learning it. We have only to place facilities in his way and if his work is not too exacting to leave him leisure and energy, he will soon avail himself of them.

As for our general civilization, it has many points of superiority to others and it is a knowledge or be-

lief in this superiority which brings the foreigner here. But it is not a sad and mournful fact that experience of the realities of our civilization has come to many foreigners as a bitter disillusionment? The writer has heard Russians of good family and education tell how they had steeped themselves in the writings of the great English apostles of democracy and political freedom, Burke, Mill, Morley and others and then come to Canada to meet their first experience of British democracy at the hands of the minions of Sir Clifford Sifton and Mr. Robert Rogers and see a degree of crookedness and pollution in political life, which compared favorably in iniquity with the state of affairs they had fled from.

To-day thousands of our foreign population are quietly selling out their houses, getting rid of their possessions and slipping quietly back to Europe, dark and dismal though the conditions on that continent for the most part are. Now there has been little real persecution of even the enemy alien in this country. The Federal Government have made some horrible blunders in their treatment of them, but by the general mass of our people great liberality and tolerance has been shown. It is not persecution or race hatred that is taking these foreigners from our shores. They have profited economically by their stay among us for they have enjoyed high wages of late years; they have practiced thrift and saved money; many of them have been able to improve in a marked degree the status of their families. Why is it, then, that Canada has not been able to offer them sufficient attractions to prevent them from turning wistful eyes to war-racked, poverty stricken Europe?

This exodus of the foreigners should cause us to examine carefully our cheerful assumptions about the obvious superiority of our civilization in all departments of

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life over any other; the necessity lies upon our neighbors to the south in a parallel degree. If our civilization offered intrinsic powers of attraction corresponding to the opportunity it offered these people of getting work and saving money, it is improbable that so many would now be leaving it. The chief complaint of the intelligent and educated foreigner against our Canadian civilization is that it does nothing or far too little for the claims of the intellect, of beauty, of the poetry of life, of the social instinct. Our civilization with all its power and wealth is not interesting, it lacks amenity, it is not amiable. Edmund Burke once wrote that "for us to love our country, our country must be lovely".

If we are to keep in contentment any large section of our foreign population, and a debt-burdened country like ours needs as many workers as she can secure, we must begin to convince the newer peoples of the genuineness and sincerity of our mission and our professions of democracy, so abundantly and attractively set out in the immigration literature. I will not suffice to give them evening schools and continuation classes, allow worthy and well meaning Daughters of the Empire to deluge them with patriotic tracts and let them be preached to death on Sundays by earnest missionaries.

Our business, in short, is to live

up to our character and our promises. It is a mockery to distribute Bibles among the heathen, unless our own lives are sufficiently Christian to conform to Gospel principles. It only makes things worse and draws attention to the glaring discrepancy between practice and professions. Before the immigrant can be won over and absorbed in the body of our civilization, we must lift Canadian life and Canadian institutions and the Canadian economic system to a higher plane.

We must also cease to look upon the immigrant as a nuisance and an uninvited invader. He can make great contributions to our life and civilization. But we must begin now to meet the ideal of us and our country which lured him hereby and fashion our civilization in a nobler and more generous mould.

Canada and the United States are still very much in the making and their peoples should now begin afresh, with the democratic fellowship and idealism, which this terrible war has, in some measure, created as a magnificent asset in the task, to make this North American Continent what she started out to be, a greater and a freer and a better Europe. When this is accomplished, there will not be enough ships to carry the multitudes who yearn to reach our shores.

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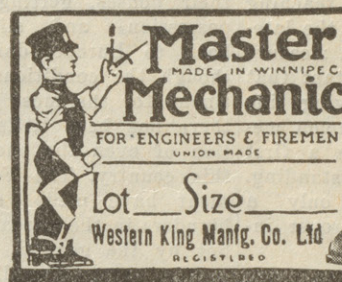
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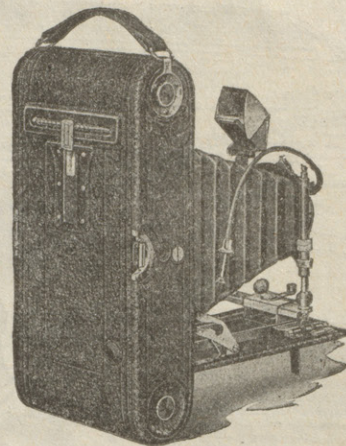
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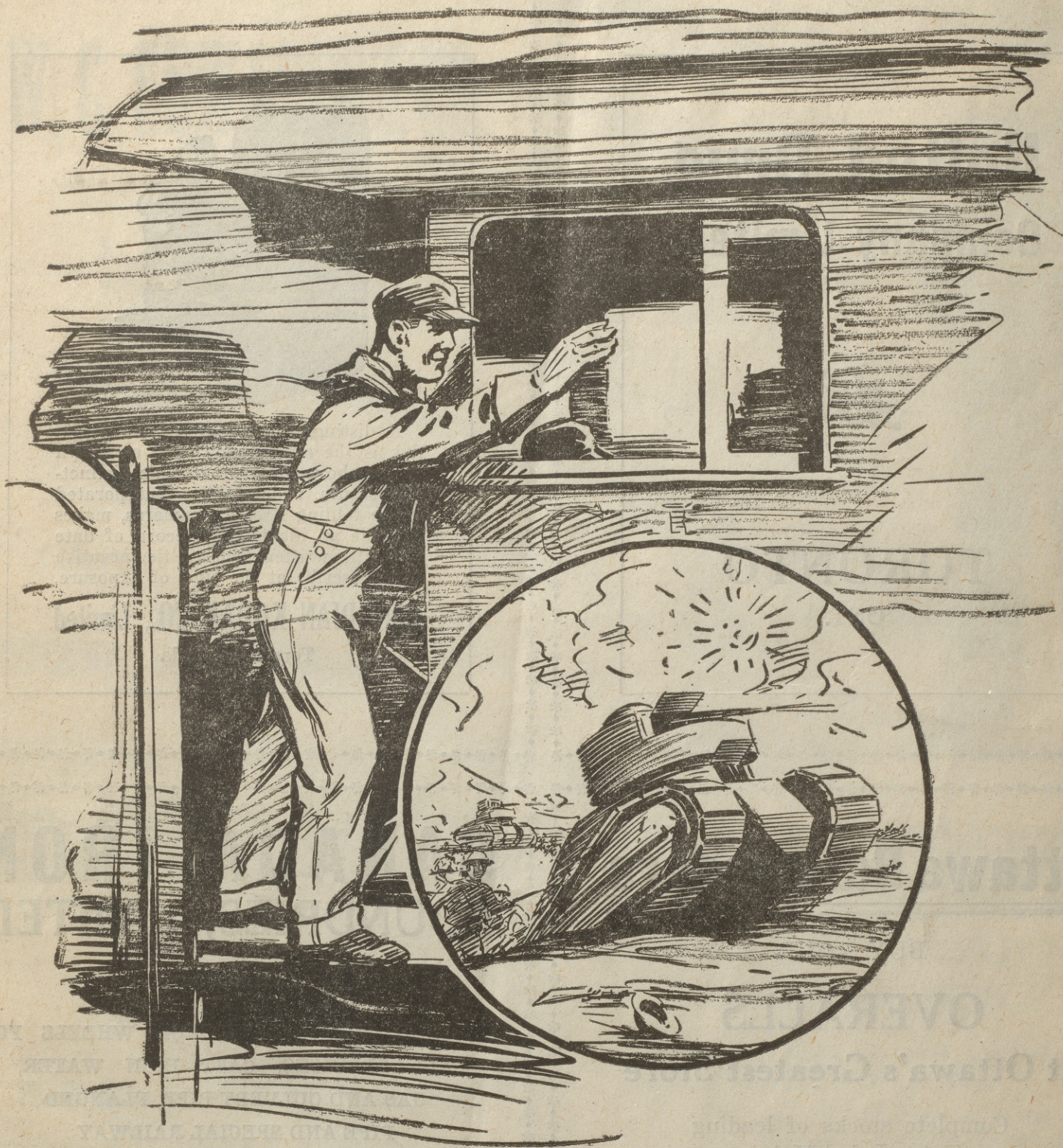
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